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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT [redacted]

INFORMATION SECRET REPORT

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COUNTRY	Germany (Russian Zone)	DATE DISTR.	7 October 1948
SUBJECT	Artificial Fertilizer Industry in the Russian Zone	NO. OF PAGES	1
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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

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[redacted]

1. [redacted] planned expansion in two stages of the artificial nitrogenous and phosphoric acid fertilizer industries in the Russian Zone. Annual requirements of artificial nitrogenous fertilizers in the zone amount to 180,000 tons; present yearly production consists of 126,000 tons of ammonium sulphate and calcium ammonium nitrate manufactured from ammonia produced at Leuna and of 15,000 tons of lime nitrogen manufactured at Piesteritz. It is desired to increase production of ammonia at Leuna to 300,000 tons per year, but it is unlikely that this level will be reached for some time. In order to raise the output of lime nitrogen, more carbide must be produced; this could be made possible by the erection of a carbide furnace at Piesteritz yielding 100 tons per day or by a 17,500 ton drop in the output of Buna, which may be the solution, since there is an acute shortage of phenyl-B-naphthylamine obtained from Ludwigshafen-Oppau and necessary for the production of Buna.

2. Annual requirements of phosphoric acid fertilizers in the Russian Zone total 160,000 tons. Production depends upon basic slag from the Maximilianhütte, Unterwellenborn, which yields 5,000 tons of phosphoric acid fertilizer per year; the remaining 155,000 tons must be manufactured from imported crude phosphates. An acute shortage of sulphuric acid existing in this industry will be met by the following measures, which should raise output by some 50,000 tons:

   a. the importation of 52,000 tons of copper concentrates for the manufacture of 26,000 tons of fuming sulphuric acid at the Mansfelder Kupferschieferbergbau AG;
   b. the erection of a pyrite roasting furnace and a de-arsenizer at Fahlberg-List, Magdeburg, which should result in an increase of 15,000 tons in the production of fuming sulphuric acid;
   c. the reconstruction of a burned plant at Salzwedel, which will have a capacity of 9,000 tons of fuming sulphuric acid.

3. It is further proposed to erect a plant which will use the thermal decomposition process for the manufacture of crude phosphates and therefore will not be dependent upon sulphuric acid supplies. The construction of this plant will cost between two and two and one-half million marks. The partially destroyed superphosphate factory in Oranienburg will be restored. The production of nitrogenous calcium phosphate at Leuna and Wolfen will result in the production of 50,000 tons of phosphoric acid fertilizers per year.

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